

Normanton Urban District Council

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1943.

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COUNCIL OFFICES.
NORMANTON.

A. HAWKINS.
CLERK.

THE URBAN DISTRICT OF NORMANTON.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Mrs. Councillor Sylvester and Gentlemen,

I submit my Report on the Vital Statistics and the Sanitary Conditions of the Normanton Urban District for the year 1943. The Report complies with the requirements of the Ministry of Health.

Yours respectfully,

WILLIAM M. McKIE.

February, 1945.

The area of the Normanton Urban District is 3,061 acres, and the estimated population for the year 1943 was 18,060. The number of houses in the district was 5,151. The rateable value for the period in question was £72,030, which gave the value of a penny rate as £269. 18. 5.

The bulk of the male population find employment in the coal industry, and a lesser number are employed on the Railway. Female workers are mainly employed in Textile and Tailoring Factories outwith the area, while considerable numbers of both sexes, owing to War conditions, are engaged in the production of munitions also outside the district.

Vital Statistics.

The birth rate for 1943 was 19.4 per 1,000 of population.

	<u>Live Births.</u>	
	M.	F.
Legitimate	177	163
Illegitimate	7	4
	<u>184</u>	<u>167</u>
	351	

	<u>Still Births.</u>	
	M.	F.
Legitimate	3	3
Illegitimate	-	-
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
	6	

The above is the highest birth rate since 1928.

The death rate for 1943 was 12.9 per 1,000 of the population. A total of 233 deaths occurred during the year in question.

Causes of Death for 1943.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Typhoid and Parat: Fevers.	-	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever.	-	-
Scarlet Fever.	-	-
Whooping Cough.	-	1
Diphtheria.	-	-
Tub: of resp: sys:	8	9
Other forms of Tuberculosis.	1	-
Syphilitic Diseases.	1	-
Influenza.	1	6
Measles.	-	-
Ac: polio-myel: & polio-enceph:	-	-
Ac: inf: Enceph:	-	-
Cancer of buc: cav: & oesoph: (m)	5	-
uterus (f)	-	3
Cancer of stomach and duodenum.	5	3
Cancer of Breast.	-	3
Cancer of all other sites.	12	5
Diabetes.	1	2
Intra-cranial vascular lesions.	11	16
Heart Diseases.	28	14
Other dis: of circ: system.	6	1
Bronchitis.	9	3
Pneumonia.	7	8
Other resp: diseases.	2	-
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum.	-	1
Diarrhoea under 2 years.	1	2
Appendicitis.	-	-
Other digestive diseases.	2	2
Nephritis.	4	2
Puer: & post-abortion: sepsis.	-	-
Other maternal causes.	-	1
Premature birth.	2	5

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Con: mal: birth inj: of infant diseases.	6	1
Suicide.	-	-
Road traffic acc:	1	-
Other violent causes.	3	4
All other causes.	13	12
	<u>129</u>	<u>104</u>
	233	

It will be seen from the above Table that diseases of the circulation account for 53% of the deaths, while diseases of the respiratory organs take a toll of 19.7%, while cancer accounts for 12%. These three groups cover 65% of the total deaths.

<u>Age Groups.</u>	<u>Ages at Death for 1943.</u>		<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
0 - 1			11	12
1 -- 5			3	-
5 - 10			-	-
10 - 15			1	-
15 - 20			1	2
20 - 25			1	2
25 - 30			1	2
30 - 40			7	3
40 - 50			7	9
50 - 60			14	14
60 - 70			34	20
70 - 80			30	26
80 - 90			19	13
Over 90			-	1
			<u>129</u>	<u>104</u>
	Totals		233	

From the above it will be noticed that considerably more than half of the deaths occur above the age of 60, and almost half of the total between 60 and 80.

Birth-rates, Civilian Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case rates for certain infectious diseases in the year 1943.

	England and Wales.	126 C.Bs & Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns Res. Pop.25,000- 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adm. County.	Normanton.
Rates per 1,000 Civilian Population:-					
Live Births.	16.5	18.6	19.4	15.8	19.4
Still "	0.51	0.63	0.61	0.45	.33
Deaths :-					
All causes.	12.1	14.2	12.7	15.0	12.9
Typhoid and Paratyphoid.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough.	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.03	0.05
Diphtheria.	0.03	0.04	0.04	0.02	0.00
Influenza.	0.37	0.36	0.37	0.27	0.38
Measles.	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.00

England and Wales.	126 C.5s & Great Towns including London.	148 Smaller Towns Pes. Pop.25,000- 50,000 at 1931 Census.	London Adm. County.	Normanton.
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Rates per 1,000 Live Births :-

Deaths under 1 yr. of age.	49	58	46	58	65
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 yrs of age.	5.3	7.9	4.4	10.4	8.5

Rates per 1,000 Civilian population :-

Notifications :-

Typhoid Fever.	0.01	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.00
Paratyphoid Fever.	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	0.08	0.10	0.06	0.09	0.22
Scarlet Fever.	3.01	3.29	3.54	3.80	4.44
Whooping Cough.	2.54	2.82	2.25	2.68	4.98
Diphtheria.	0.88	1.12	0.77	0.74	1.58
Erysipelas.	0.31	0.35	0.27	0.42	0.49
Measles.	9.88	9.25	9.77	9.17	5.36
Pneumonia.	1.34	1.62	1.16	1.27	2.60

Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still):-

(a) Notifications				3.05	2.80
Puer.Fever)	11.68	15.11	9.26	15.25	
Puer.Pyrexia)					

(b) Maternal Mortality.

Puerperal infections	0.39				0.00
Other	1.45				2.80

Notifications for 1943.

Age Groups.	Scarlet Fever. M. F.	Diph- theria. M. F.	Whooping Cough. M. F.	Measles. M. F.	Ac.Pneu- monia. M. F.	Cerebro- Spinal. M. F.	Erysipelas. M. F.
<u>1st Quarter.</u>							
0 - 1	- -	- -	1 5	5 4	1 2	- -	- -
1 - 3	- -	- -	2 5	10 13	3 2	- -	- -
3 - 5	1 -	1 1	1 7	11 17	1 2	- 1	- -
5 - 10	1 3	5 1	- 3	6 14	1 -	- -	- -
10 - 15	2 -	1 1	- -	- 2	- -	- 1	- -
15 - 25	1 -	- -	- -	- 1	2 -	- 1	- -
25 & over.	- 2	- 1	- -	- -	8 7	- 1	1 1
<u>2nd Quarter.</u>							
0 - 1	- -	- -	1 -	1 -	- -	- -	- -
1 - 3	- 1	- -	2 1	5 3	- -	- -	- -
3 - 5	1 3	- -	4 3	- -	1 1	- -	- -
5 - 10	5 5	3 -	- -	1 2	- 2	- -	- -
10 - 15	3 2	2 1	- -	1 1	- -	- -	- -
15 - 25	- -	- 2	- -	- -	2 -	- -	- -
25 & over.	1 -	- -	- -	- -	4 1	- -	1 -
<u>3rd Quarter.</u>							
0 - 1	- -	- -	1 3	- -	- -	- -	- -
1 - 3	- -	- -	6 14	- -	1 -	- -	- -
3 - 5	3 2	- -	11 17	- -	- -	- -	- -
5 - 10	2 11	- -	6 5	- -	- -	- -	- -
10 - 15	6 7	- 1	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
15 - 25	- -	1 -	- -	- -	- -	- -	- -
25 & over.	- -	- -	- -	- -	4 -	- -	1 -

Age Groups.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Whooping Cough.	Measles.	Ac. Pneumonia.	Cerebro-Spinal.	Erysipelas.
	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.	M. F.
1st Quarter.							
0 - 1	- -	- -	1 4	- -	- -	- -	- -
1 - 5	- -	- -	5 6	- -	2 -	- -	- -
5 - 10	- 2	- 1	5 7	- -	- 1	- -	- -
10 - 15	8 3	- -	3 5	- -	- 1	- -	- -
15 - 25	2 1	1 -	- -	- -	2 1	- -	- -
25 & over.	- -	- 1	- -	- -	- 1	- -	- -
	1 1	- 1	- -	- -	9 5	- -	1 4

Total Notifications.

Scarlet Fever.	80
Diphtheria.	25
Whooping Cough.	132
Measles.	97
Ac. Pneumonia.	67
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	4
Erysipelas.	9
Puerperal Pyrexia.	1
Dysentery.	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	1

Treated in Hospital.

Scarlet Fever.	80
Diphtheria.	25
Cerebro-Spinal Fever.	4

Tuberculosis Notifications for 1943.

Age Groups.	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
0 - 1	-	-	1	-
1 - 5	-	-	1	1
5 - 10	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	1	-
15 - 20	1	1	-	2
20 - 25	-	3	-	1
25 - 35	1	4	-	1
35 - 45	3	1	-	-
45 - 55	2	-	-	-
55 - 65	1	-	-	-
Over 65	2	-	-	-
Totals	10	9	3	5
	19		8	

Cases on Tuberculosis Register in 1943.

	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Totals.
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
1st Quarter.	32	31	29	24	136
2nd Quarter.	51	33	30	25	139
3rd Quarter.	48	34	26	24	132
4th Quarter.	45	29	23	21	118

Tuberculosis Deaths.

<u>Age Groups.</u>	<u>Pulmonary.</u>		<u>Non-Pulmonary.</u>	
	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
0 - 1	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	1	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	-	-
10 - 15	-	-	-	-
15 - 20	-	1	-	-
20 - 25	-	1	-	-
25 - 35	4	2	-	-
35 - 45	-	1	-	-
45 - 55	2	2	-	-
55 - 65	1	1	-	-
Over 65	1	-	1	-
	<u>8</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
Totals	8	9	1	-
	17		1	

The pages which follow relate to the Sanitary statistics and conditions in the Normanton Urban District, and have been compiled by the Sanitary Inspector.

The duties of Sanitary Inspector are carried out by Mr. Walter Baxter, who, in spite of the fact that he is near retiring age, has done his work without technical assistance in a thoroughly conscientious and cheerful manner. I, as Medical Officer, cannot speak too highly of his service.

The sanitary provisions for the area remain the same as tabulated in my Report for 1942, namely :-

Water closets	4952
Waste water closets	36
Water closets flushed by automatic tanks	10
Pail closets	19
Privies	18
Cesspools	11
<u>Refuse receptacles</u>	
Wet ashpits in connection with privies	11
Dry ashpits	53
Ashbins	5815

House and Trade Refuse collection and disposal.

From January 1st to November 7th the whole of the refuse from the Normanton Ward was disposed of at the Brickyard tip. On the 8th November to the end of the year the old quarry at the boundary of the district in Wakefield Road was resorted to. Permission to use this as a tip was given by Mr. Whiteley, of Heath, Estate Agent, the Altofts Ward collection of house refuse being taken and dealt with at the Foxholes Lane tip.

The number of loads dealt with at the three tips was 4592, 3542 being motor loads and 1050 horse loads. The estimated weight of refuse removed for the year was 8,000 tons. The cost of collection and disposal, which included salvage collection, amounted to £4079.

The amount of salvage collected and disposed of during the year was :-

Paper	82 tons, a decrease on the previous year of 29 tons.
Tins	21 " decrease 23 tons.
Textiles	126 cwts, decrease 28 cwts.
Bottles and jars	161 " increase 17 "
Black scrap	59 " decrease 1 "
Non-ferrous metals	11½ " increase 1 "
Rubber	49 " decrease 51 "
Bones	5 " 11½ " increase 2 tons 11½ cwts.
Kitchen waste	40 " 12½ "

Amount realised £810. 15. 4.

Housing Accommodation.

Overcrowding, which was being overcome in 1939, is now becoming prevalent the home in many cases being already overcrowded by increasing

and growing families, others marrying and living with their parents does not improve the position, and these conditions are likely to become worse before post-war building will be able to overcome the situation.

Cases of extreme hardship are often brought to one's notice by sub-tenants - who are often paying for facilities denied them by the absence of adequate sleeping and living accommodation, and washing and cooking facilities - these being aggravated when the sub-tenant has a young family.

Where this type of tenant is so placed - often through no fault of their own - they should be given consideration when tenancy vacancies arise.

Poor and inadequate housing accommodation is often productive of undesirable tenants, who would, given reasonable facilities at the start, have become first class tenants.

Meat Inspection.

	<u>Cattle.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Sheep and Lambs.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
No. of animals slaughtered.	727	14	511	43
No. inspected.	627	10	269	39
Details of carcasses and organs condemned as unfit for human consumption during 1943 at the Government-controlled Slaughter-house, rear of King Edward Street, Normanton.				
<u>All diseases, except Tuberculosis.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned.	0	0	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	35	0	0	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with <u>diseases other than Tuberculosis.</u>	5.5	0	0	2.5
<u>Tuberculosis only.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned.	2	1	0	0
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	32	0	0	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	5.4	10.0	0	2.3

Note - All cattle are grouped under one head, no distinction being made between bullocks and cows.

Details of food condemned in 1943 at the Government-controlled Slaughter-house

8 parts of liver.	
2 parts of liver (bovine).	
Bovine livers	31
2 forequarters of beef (cow)	
Sets of offals.	4
Pigs livers.	1
Sets of lungs.	20
Heads and tongues	2
Carcass and all organs casualty cow (T.B)	2
Sheeps plucks.	1
Bruised beef (50 lbs casualty)	
Bruised beef 29 lbs.	
Heart	1
Udders	4
Casualty calf and all organs	1
Pigs pluck.	1
Leg of beef.	1
Total weight	22 cwt. 80 lbs.

Details of food condemned in 1943 at various shops.

Casserole steak	56 tins.
Chopped ham (12 oz)	5 "
Chopped ham (6 lbs)	5 "
Prem (12 oz)	1 "
Luncheon meat (2½ lbs)	22 "

Luncheon meat (6 lbs)	3 tins.
Corneo beef (6 lbs)	20 "
Corneo beef ($\frac{3}{4}$ lbs)	76 "
Corneo mutton (6 lbs)	15 "
Tin Brisket 4 lbs.	1 "
Luncheon Sausage	217 lbs.
Pork sausage meat ($1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs)	6 tins.
Baked beans.	154 tins.
S. Beans	4 "
Ready Dinners	3 "
Ready Meals	62 "
Peas	11 "
Lamb and peas	65 "
Pork and beef	446 "
Soup	336 "
Salmon (Grade 2)	1 "
Salmon (Grade 3)	98 "
Sardines	178 "
Pilcharas	219 "
Herrings	2 "
Milk	5 "
Full-cream	2 "
Unsweetened	7 "
Condensed	37 "
Evaporated	2 "
Sweetened condensed machine skimmed	164 "
Pineapple	2 "
Tomatoes	9 "
Victoria Plums	19 "
Pears	2 "
Prunes	2 "
Apples (6 lbs)	1 "
Rollod Bacon	86 lbs.
Ham	6 "
Cheese	97 $\frac{3}{4}$ "
Fish	71 "
Fish in transit	18 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
Butter	19 "
Sugar dirty in transit	12 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
Eggs	153.
Jam (1 lbs)	18
Grape Fruit Marmalade	1
Tea	1 lb. 13 oz.
Liquorice Allsorts	27 lbs.
Wilko-Mints.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, Tuberculosis Order, 1938.

There are 17 farms in the area, all the farmers being registered as cow-keepers. Two of the farmers do not produce milk except for their own use, seven are wholesale producers, and eight retail the milk they produce.

Two of the farms are licensed by the County Council for the production of "Accredited" milk.

All dairy herds are inspected periodically by Inspectors of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries (Animal Health Section), who administer Part 4 of the Milk and Dairies Order, 1926, and the T.B. Order, 1925.

There are on the register 25 retail purveyors of milk in the area, three of these (Co-operative Societies) being licensed under the Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, to use the designation "Pasteurised" in relation to milk retailed by them.

No samples of milk were taken during the year for analysis under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Infectious Diseases.

During the year disinfection for the following diseases was carried out :-

Scarlet Fever cases	80
Diphtheria cases	25
Cerebro-spinal Fever cases	4
Tuberculosis cases	14

73 Library books were brought away from houses following an infection and, after treatment, were returned to the Library for re-issue.

Disinfection of Gas Masks.

278 Babies' Gas Helmets and children's small Respirators were brought to the office when it became necessary to change for another type. These were disinfected before being returned for re-issue.

Factories Act, 1937.

The Register kept records 55 premises to which the Act applies.

All factories where mechanical power is used are administered by H.M. Inspector of Factories. Sections 1 to 7 in Part I relating to Cleanliness, Overcrowding, Temperature, Ventilation, Lighting, Drainage of Floors, and sanitary conveniences in non-power Factories, Section 34 in Part II Means of Escape in case of Fire, and Section 110 in Part VIII relating to Outworkers, are administered by the District Council. Visits were paid to all the Factories during the year, and these call for no comment.

Two Certificates under Section 34, Adequate Means of Escape in case of Fire, were issued during the year.

Shops Act, 1934.

There are in the district 144 premises to which the above Act applies. Most, but not all, of these have been visited during the year. They are constantly under review. No action was found to be necessary under the various Acts connected therewith, the Shops (Hours of Closing) Order, 1928, the Young Persons (Employment) Act, 1936, and the Shops (Sunday Trading Restrictions) Act, 1936.

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

Powers under this Act delegated to the Council by the West Riding County Council in 1928 have been systematically carried out since that date. All complaints have been investigated and premises where rats and mice were known to exist visited from time to time. Where necessary baits and other means were employed to exterminate them.

Under the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, an Infestation Order, dated the 6th May, 1943, and made by the Ministry of Food dealing with rats and mice, came into operation. Directions were given in this Order to all Authorities throughout the country to systematically treat all sewers, drains, buildings and land where rats and mice could be found and dealt with. A report on infestation had first to be submitted to the Director of Infestation Control for and on behalf of the Ministry of Food.

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 13.

Precautions against contamination of food.

No action was found to be necessary under this Section during the year, although it will be necessary for improvement to be called for in post-war years.

Bakehouses.

There are 13 Bakehouses in the district, to which occasional visits were paid during the year.

Verminous Houses.

Normanton, like other districts, is not free from the prevalence of the bed bug, and every effort is made to assist householders to get rid of this noxious pest. Whilst some of the older houses suffer in a more or less degree one often finds cases where quite modern houses become infested; the letting of rooms to migratory tenants, and the traffic in second-hand furniture often accounting for this. If taken in time the pest can be exterminated by one or two treatments of the room. In some cases the tenant is indifferent and allows the spread from room to room, and it is not until a change of tenancy occurs that the extent of the invasion is realised. 21 rooms were satisfactorily dealt with during the year. Methods employed according to the degree of infestation were by the use of a blow lamp, followed by an insecticide used as a spray and finally a Fumex fumigator - a sulphurous compound - being placed in the room, set alight and the room sealed.

Summary of Complaints, Housing Defects or Nuisances, found and remedied during the year.

Defective roofs.	49
Defective chimney stacks and flues.	18
Defective eaves gutters.	15
Defective rain-water pipes.	13
Defective W.C's.	152
Defective cooking ranges.	21
Flooded cellars.	12
Defective ceilings and wall plaster.	26
Defective window frames and sashes.	15
Defective set-pots.	19
Broken drain inspection covers.	4
Defective sink waste pipes.	32
Choked drains.	125
Worn-out dustbins.	49
Dirty and verminous houses.	21
Accumulations and deposits.	7
Rat and mice infestations.	15
Defective concrete floors.	7
Coal grates and chutes repaired.	8
Yard paving repaired.	4

Visits and Inspections made during the year.

Housing inspections and repairs.	478
Slaughterhouse and Tripe Boiler.	79
New drainage and reconstruction of drains.	21
Ashbins and ashpits.	186
Farms.	31
Piggeries.	11
Rat and mice infestations.	28
Overcrowding.	5
Infectious diseases.	130
Dirty houses and verminous premises.	21
Shops and food stores.	51
Bakehouses.	14
Tips, baling shed and salvage.	114
Animals improperly kept.	10
Petrol stores.	5
Unsatisfactory water supply.	9
Flooded cellars.	12
Foul accumulations.	5
Redundant building pulled down.	1
Letters and Notices sent in connection with the above.	292

